

tude so rife among so called scientists, we cannot resist the force of the argument for good faith on reading these chapters.

The book is certainly interesting and suggestive although it fails to carry conviction to the individual reviewer.

S. E. J.

JAHRESBERICHT ÜBER DIE LEISTUNGEN UND FORTSCHRITTE AUF DEM GEBIETE DER NEUROLOGIE UND PSYCHIATRIE. Dr. ED. FLATAU, Dr. E. MENDEL and Dr. L. JACOBSON. Vol. V. Bericht über das Jahr, 1901. S. Karger.

We have been late in our review of Volume V. of this splendid work but we hope thereby to repair a fault by our steadfast enthusiasm concerning this indispensable year book. If workers in neurology would save the few dollars they spend in year books of other manufacture in which the subjects of their interests are so inadequately covered and get this they will never regret it.

In view of the monumental character of the work we feel that one of the duties of those working in the sphere of nervous and mental diseases is to encourage as far as possible such a publication that it may continue to be of use to ourselves and to our patients. It is the only year book worth the while in the specialty, apart from our current leading journals, and \$8.00 is well spent in its purchase.

The present volume differs in no essential regard from its predecessors. It is marked by the same faithful summary of the facts relative to the various topics germane to neurological medicine. We again offer our thanks to editors, assistants and publishers alike for offering the profession so useful a volume.

JELIFFE.

THE AMERICAN YEAR-BOOK OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY FOR 1904. A Yearly Digest of Scientific Progress and Authoritative Opinion in all branches of Medicine and Surgery. Arranged under the editorial charge of GEORGE M. GOULD, A. M., M. D. In two volumes. Volume I, *General Medicine*. W. B. Saunders & Co.

The American Year-Book has been before the reading public for many years. It is a very useful volume.

Speaking from the standpoint of the student of nervous and mental disease it is extremely inadequate. This is particularly true for the section on mental diseases. Here nine papers are reviewed—all of them of comparatively trivial importance in view of the very large number of extremely interesting contributions which have been made during the past year in the subject matter of psychiatry. We had the same criticism to make of the section of mental diseases last year and cannot find any improvement in this present volume.

The percentage of mental disease to other diseases in the community is far higher than the amount of space devoted to it in this year-book.

Nervous diseases, apart from mental disorders are represented in from 4-5 per cent. of the community. From the statistical point of view alone the less than 3 per cent. of space in the American Year-Book devoted to both subjects is not adequate.

For the general practitioner the summary on nervous diseases will be found useful. For the large number of men who make the subject a specialty or who are interested in Institution work, and there are thousands of them, this summary will prove a disappointment. May we hope for better things in the next volume.

POPE.

LA NATURE SYPHILITIQUE ET LA CURABILITÉ DU TABES ET DE LA PARALYSIE GÉNÉRALE. Par L. E. LEREDDE. Paris 1903.

In summing up the conclusions of this work the author says: "The

affections that were designated, in 1902, under the name of tabes and general paralysis, are, among syphilitics, of a syphilitic nature, curable by mercurial treatment. This fact has not been recognized: (1) Because mercurial treatment has not been used in these cases regularly and with sufficiently large doses of mercury. (2) Because, like all other lesions of the nervous system, the syphilitic lesions of tabes and general paralysis bring about secondary lesions and their symptoms at first curable become finally permanent. The older the process, the more one observes, other things being equal, symptoms of this character. (3) Because histologists who can sometimes, by microscopical examination, affirm the syphilitic nature of a lesion, have got so they affirm in the name of pathological anatomy that certain lesions are not syphilitic, then that their nature is unknown. Tabes and general paralysis (among syphilitics) are not independent morbid entities, but simply anatomo-clinical modalities similarly due to a particular diffusion, a slow evolution of the syphilitic process. Between them and the typical forms of cerebral or spinal syphilis exist all intermediate varieties."

These conclusions are reached after a very careful study of the whole subject from the several standpoints, clinical, pathological, therapeutic. Fournier is criticised and his class of parasymphilitic affections is called artificial. On the general subject of the etiology of both tabes and paresis the author states that it is impossible to state whether these diseases occur only in syphilitics but when they are of syphilitic origin they are of syphilitic nature. In proof of these assertions he cites many cases of both diseases that have been cured by antisymphilitic treatment.

The author's contention certainly has much to commend it and is stated in a careful, conservative manner and illustrated by a wealth of references to literature and to cases both personal and reported. Certainly many of the cases which we are today inclined to feel uncertain about would find here an explanation, more satisfying and more scientific than the *post hoc* method of therapeutics. Particularly is this so of certain cerebral affections which have all the appearances of uncomplicated syphilitic lesions when first seen but which, at a later date, perhaps a year or two afterwards, develop the typical symptoms of paresis. Both the diagnosis of paresis developing long after an initial specific lesion, and retrospective diagnosis of paresis from the beginning are unsatisfying. A similar criticism might be made in regard to those irregular cases of tabes, with perhaps apoplectiform attacks appearing early with subsequent improvement and a stationary period of uncertain duration.

As to treatment the author lays stress on the necessity of using large enough doses of mercury and recommends the hypodermic method of administration.

WM. A. WHITE (Washington, D. C.).

UEBER DIE WIRKUNGEN DER CASTRATION. Von Dr. P. J. MÖBIUS. Verlag von Carl Marhold, Halle a. d. s., 1903.

The historical portion of this monograph is very interesting. Castration was practiced quite extensively among the ancients and the literature of this period although not so accurate as one would desire, still is replete with interesting illustrations. As one of the forms of punishment castration was extensively practiced, though probably not so much so as a part of a religious ceremony. Castration for the preservation of the voice is a well known procedure. Its effects upon the human being depend upon the time of the operation, whether before the age of puberty or after. The author describes the changes which occur as a result of this in the male and female and in animals of both sexes. The alterations in the male as in the sexual apparatus, breasts, bones, fatty tissues,